

for the meeting. Announce the offering in advance. Strive to secure an offering from each member.

Do not forget the painting fund. The work is now done. We have also a new and much larger porch in the front of the boarding hall. All this has been paid for by a few of our brethren who now wait for us to pay them. Many societies have not yet subscribed anything. Will you not do so at once?

WM. D. FURRY.

Unused Power

Man has never known the world so well as he knows it to-day. For many centuries man's thoughts were centered either upon the stars above or the regions below the earth. To day, owing to the advance of scientific thought, our thoughts are fastened more upon the world upon which we live, and the knowledge so gained has already served us in more ways than one.

Certainly no one at this late day objects to the attainment of such knowledge. While dangers may attend such knowledge, it is only the novice that will be hurt in faith. Bacon said truly that a little science will lead men's minds to atheism; but depths in science will bring men's minds to religion.

Among the many valuable and suggestive lessons that we have learned from science is that in this wave-washed, green clothed and rock-ribbed earth of ours there is an untold and unmeasurable amount of power unused. And only in our own century and that toward its close has this fact been sufficiently appreciated to take advantage of it. To day we make the winds raise our water from the depths and even furnish power to grind our grain. We have learned that coal contains a vast amount of power that can be gained by a change of its form, and that with it are to be found oil and gas whose power and usefulness is indeterminable. And only yesterday Niagara was harnessed and the power that has been unutilized for centuries is to provide New York with light and motive-power. These powers always were; the only surprising thing is that we did not discover them sooner.

From all this we conclude that in the world of men, as well as in the world of things there is to be found a vast amount of undiscovered and therefore unused power. It is certainly true that, if every man is born into this world with his work born with him, the power wherewith to do that work is also born with him. If any man, therefore, does not work out his purpose in life it can not be the cause of a lack of power. May it not therefore, be with the world of men as with the world of things, that there is much undiscovered and unused power? How many of us have been surprised at the unexpected development of power in an individual, who before had shown no promise whatever of exceptional power or ability. Moreover this development is sometimes as great a surprise to the person in whom it takes place as to his friends. Many a man has suddenly

found himself in the possession of a power, which he never suspected himself in the least to possess. What happens in such cases is not the coming into his nature of something new—something not already there, but the manifestation of something that hitherto has been concealed. Men are not born fully developed. Young men and women are but bundles of possibilities as yet undeveloped. These develop, according to God's own law, by putting forth their strength; and the fulness and symmetry of their development depends solely upon the completeness with which they give out what is in them. When a man or woman suddenly manifests a power that he did not suspect himself to have, he is simply putting forth what was already in him.

If, therefore, we conclude from a further knowledge of the world that it contains much undiscovered and unused power, so we must conclude from a further study of men, that society is full of undeveloped or partly developed individuals. This last is certainly true whether we look upon man as physical only, as intellectual only or spiritual only, or as made up of all three. Who knows but that the capacities undeveloped and therefore unknown in the world far exceed the known ones. It may be safely said that very few men completely unfold all that is in them. As the world yet contains powers and treasures unknown that soon will bring prosperity to individuals and communities, so the world is filled with men and women rich in power of the highest kind unknown to them because they have never given themselves up to a full development thru activity. The world certainly has too many braggarts, yet I believe it to be true that more men and women fail because of an under-estimation of their powers than because of an over-estimation of them. Very few of us take ourselves at an adequate valuation. We do not know ourselves as an earnest people should; and God alone can know what danger lurks in such loose valuations of our powers. Certainly in our most serious moments we wish that Burn's prayer were answered in us all so that we might indeed get an honest view of ourselves, *at arm's length at least.*

It is a dangerous and fatal fault to think of one's self more highly than one ought to think. Growth is certainly thwarted in the person that does not fully appreciate his smallness. To be self-satisfied is the beginning of death. Reaching is vitally connected with all growth; and no one will ever reach after that which he is confident he already possesses. Conceit may and often does blister and deform the face of life; but it is not by any means to be compared with that discouragement that has sapped the life and vitality of men and falls with a thud upon the casket of dead aspirations. More people fail today from not attempting enough than from attempting too much. *And why is this?* It is because men and women do not know themselves. Memory rather than hope obtains the mastery of our lives.

There is a dreadful sense in which our "conscience doth make cowards of us all." Tomorrow with all its opportunity will be lost to a multitude of men and women, because the shadows of the past prevent them from seeing what Ben Ezra saw, those

"Instincts immature
All purposes unsure,
That weighed not as his work, but swelled the man's account.
Thoughts hardly to be packed
Into a narrower act;
Fancies that broke thru language and escaped;
All I could never be,
All men ignored in me—
This was I worth to God."

The most of us do not believe in our own resources else we would make more of our lives. Again many of us do not feel the pressure of the conditions that confront us, else we should awake to the possession of a power adequate to the call that comes to us from the conditions. Energy, self-sacrifice and genius are always called out by crises, but it should not be so. These powers should arise from an inner impulse. Each one of us ought to put forth the best that is within as a matter of loyalty to himself and devotion to his fellows. We ought to lead in the increase of spiritual power rather than wait for a call to come to us from without. We must believe that in each of us there are the germs of an endless life. To believe this is not only to secure the highest and completest growth and to give the best service to our fellow-man.

W. D. FURRY.

The Mission Field

From the National Capital

That other sanctified (?) woman—Last week I promised to tell you about her. She, too, attended our late love feast. "The Lord knows that I am *willing* to wash feet and that is enough," so she talked to me. I replied, "Supposing that you have two children, John and Mary. You are going to leave them for a while and you tell them to perform a certain piece of work during your absence. On returning you ask them what they have done. John says, 'I've done the best I could to carry out your instructions.' Now let us hear from Mary: Listen! 'Mamma, I didn't do the work, but then you know I was *willing* to do it.' How would you receive Mary's account of herself?" She then replied that she did not think that such things were as important as some other things, etc.

Isn't it strange that any person professing to follow Christ should treat His Word in that way? God says, "Blessed are they that *do* his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, etc. Rev. 22:14. Many professing godliness say, "Blessed are they that are willing to do his commandments, etc." Jesus says, John 13:17, "If ye know these things happy are ye if ye do them." Man says, "Happy are ye if ye do that which they represent—have the spirit